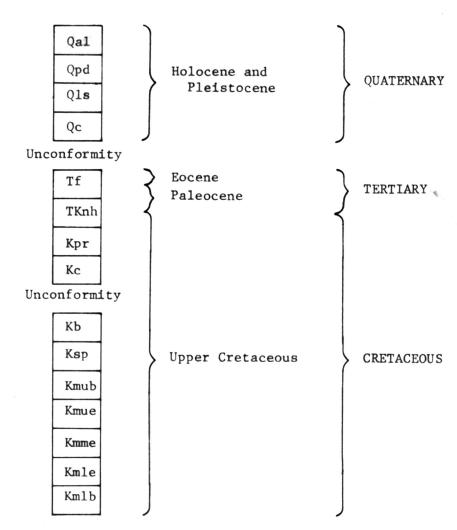


GEOLOGIC MAP AND COAL SECTIONS OF THE CAP QUADRANGLE, EMERY COUNTY, UTAH Eugene G. Ellis 1981

CORRELATION OF MAP UNITS



	LIST	OF MAP	UNITS
Qal	Alluvium	Kb	Blackhawk Formation
Qpd	Pediment deposits	Ksp	Star Point Sandstone
Qls	Landslide deposits		MANCOS SHALE
Qc	Colluvium	Kmub	Upper part of Blue Gate Shale Member
Tf	Flagstaff Limestone	Kmue	Upper part of Emery Sandstone Member
TKnh	North Horn Formation	Kmme	Middle part of Emery Sandstone Membe
Kpr	Price River Formation	Kmle	Lower part of Emery Sandstone Member
Kc	Castlegate Sandstone	Km1b	Lower part of Blue Gate Shale Member

CONTACT--Dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed FAULT--Dashed where approximately located; dotted where concealed; queried where conjectured. Bar and ball on downthrown side

() COAL SECTION--Circled number refers to measured coal section. Line points to top of coal section STRIKE AND DIP OF BEDS

INTRODUCTION

The Cap quadrangle, in Emery County in central Utah, was mapped in 1977-79 as part of the U.S. Geological Survey's program to evaluate lands in the public domain for potential coal leasing. Mapping was done using U.S. Forest Service color aerial photographs at a scale of 1:15,840 on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps at a scale of 1;24,000. The quadrangle was mapped previously by Spieker (1931) at a scale

The quadrangle is named for The Cap which is the top of North Horn Mountain in the northwestern part of the area about 14 km west of Orangeville, Utah. This area is part of the Wasatch Plateau and altitudes are from 1,825 m in the southeastern part of the quadrangle to 2,945 m in the northwestern part. There are no perennial streams in the area; the largest intermittent stream flows southeastward through Rock Canyon draining the central part of the quadrangle. North Horn and South Horn Mountains are gently rolling uplands bordered on the east by stepped-cliffs about

Resistant sandstones and limestones form cliffs throughout the area with less resistant shales forming gentler slopes that, in places, are covered by hummocky landslide deposits. Throughout the quadrangle, small areas of badlands have been formed in the shales of the Upper Cretaceous and Paleocene North Horn Formation, most notably on the western slopes of North Horn Mountain in the western part and in the Upper Cretaceous Mancos Shale in the eastern part. Extensive pediments slope eastward from the plateau cliffs.

Access to much of the area is by foot or by four-wheel-drive vehicle; the only improved (light-duty dirt) road is on the southern slope of North Horn Mountain. Unimproved dirt roads provide access to other points of both mountain and valley areas. There are no permanent habitations or active mines in the area.

Annual precipitation varies from less than 15 cm to at least 50 cm and increases with altitude. The vegetation zones found in this area are the Upper Sonoran, Transition, Canadiah, and Hudsonian (U.S. Forest Service, 1978).

STRATIGRAPHY

Sedimentary rocks total about 1,100 m in thickness and range in age from Late Cretaceous to Tertiary. Lithology and thickness of the units are shown in the generalized stratigraphic section.

North Horn Formation is a flood-plain lacustrine facies, well known for its vertebrate fossils. Fossils of reptilia and mammalia, in particular, have been described by researchers from the Smithsonian Institution (Gazin, 1941; Gilmore, 1946) and from various universities (for example, Jensen, 1966).

mally named the great white sandstone, is lithologically similar to the Upper Cretaceous Castlegate Sandstone in that it is very pale orange to pinkish gray, medium to coarse grained, massive, and locally conglomeratic. The great white sandstone forms a prominent cliff in this and adjacent quadrangles. The Upper Cretaceous Blackhawk Formation is a deltaic facies and contains the

The Upper Cretaceous Price River Formation contains a distinct marker bed approximately 20 m thick about 30 m below the top of the formation. This marker bed, infor-

major coal resources of the area. The Blackhawk is predominantly sandstone with lesser amounts of shale, siltstone, and coal. The sandstone is thicker and more extensive in the upper part of the formation than in the lower part, which contains the economically valuable coal beds. The part of the marine, Upper Cretaceous Mancos Shale that occurs in this area

has been divided into five units: the upper part of the Blue Gate Shale Member, the upper, middle, and lower parts of the Emery Sandstone Member, and the lower part of the Blue Gate Shale Member. This terminology is a modification of the work of Peterson and Ryder (1975), who recorrelated parts of the Mancos Shale in southeastern Utah. The threefold breakdown of the Emery Sandstone Member follows that of Spieker (1931), who first mapped the Mancos Shale in this area.

The rocks generally dip very gently westward or northwestward in this area. Biddlecome Hollow fault zone, with a displacement of about 355 m in this quadrangle, forms the western edge of South Horn Mountain. This graben is an offshoot of the large Joes Valley fault zone to the west; the fault in the extreme southwestern corner of the quadrangle is part of this large fault zone. Within these grabens are numerous small faults of diverse orientations that brecciate the zones. In the Joes Valley Reservoir quadrangle to the northwest, faulting within the Joes Valley fault zone has displaced Quaternary alluvium.

ECONOMIC GEOLOGY

Coal. -- The coal beds in the area that meet current classification standards (Bass and others, 1970) are those in the Hiawatha, Blind Canyon, and Bear Canyon zones in the lower part of the Blackhawk Formation. These coal beds are generally lenticular. The lowest coal bed of the Hiawatha zone is usually the most laterally extensive although it may be cut locally by paleochannels. The thickest coal beds occur in the Blind Canyon zone; these beds tend to be less consistent in thickness than those in the Hiawatha zone. The coal beds in the Bear Canyon zone tend to be thin and not very extensive laterally. Coal cleats are oriented approximately N20°W and N90°E.

Coal analyses from this quadrangle (Doelling, 1972) show average values for high-volatile B bituminous coal to be 12,363 Btu/1b; moisture 7.7 percent; volatile matter, 38.8 percent; fixed carbon 49.5 percent; ash, 4.3 percent; and sulfur 0.77

Doelling (1972) reported reserves of 377,830,600 tons for this quadrangle--an estimate based on limited data.

Limestone. -- Limestone of potential economic value is found in the lacustrine Flagstaff Limestone. At least some of this limestone meets the purity requirements for potential use in the sulfur dioxide scrubber systems of coal-burning powerplants and as mine rock dust in coal mines. Analyses of samples have shown this limestone to be generally very pure with an average soluble carbonate percentage of 94.4

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> CONVERSION TABLE To convert To obtain Multiply by ENGLISH UNITS Centimeters 0.3937 Inches Meters 3.281

> > .6214

Miles

This report has not been edited for conformity

with U.S. Geological Survey editorial standards

Kilometers